Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Wednesday 16 Feb 2022 until 23:59 on Thursday 17 Feb 2022

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 16 Feb 2022 at 00:35

Confidence: High for the very unsettled and at times stormy conditions. Medium for cloud details. Medium in details from Friday.

Headline for Wednesday 16 Feb 2022: Gale to storm force winds. Heavy rain at times.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 16 Feb 2022

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
Medium Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Light rain	Dull	Light snow
Precipitation probability					
20%	30%	70%	70%	50%	40%

Forecast for Wednesday 16 Feb 2022

Weather: Dry with some early brightness possible, but soon cloudy and overcast with outbreaks of heavy rain. Drier spells and wintry showers in the evening, snow mainly above 800m. Gales and buffeting at height and turning stormy in the evening with gusts of 80mph or more with the risk of being blown over.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% early morning and in the evening, otherwise Nil to 20%

Low cloud and visibility: Moderate or poor in rain and showers, very poor at times at height. Occasional or extensive cloud, base 600m or less at times, but often 900m or higher in the evening.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
© Crown Copyright 2022. All Rights Reserved.

Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Wednesday 16 Feb 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	52/61 W	45/56 SW	45/56 SW	61/77 SW	61/78 W	58/75 W	54/69 W
600	41/52 W	36/47 SW	33/43 SW	49/66 SW	48/66 W	48/67 W	44/61 W
300	12/42 W	12/38 SW	10/34 SW	18/53 SW	17/54 W	20/55 W	19/51 W
Valley	9/36 W	12/33 SW	12/33 SW	19/50 SW	19/50 W	20/50 W	19/46 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	5/-3	4/-4	4/-4	6/-2	2/-8	0/-10	-1/-11
600	6/0	6/-1	5/-1	7/1	4/-3	2/-6	1/-7
300	8/6	8/4	7/4	9/5	7/3	5/-0	4/-1
Valley	9/7	9/6	8/5	10/6	9/5	7/3	6/2
Freezing Level*	1500m	1500m	1800m	1900m	1100m	900m	800m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

A poor day overall, particularly later in the day with a marked deterioration in conditions from midday.

Forecast for Thursday 17 Feb 2022

Weather: Storm force winds and snow showers overnight. Bright with scattered snow showers during daylight hours, winds slowly easing but a severe wind chill for much of the time. Mainly rain or sleet below 500m. Mainly dry in the evening with a frost and some clear spells.

Maximum wind: Winds West 40mph gusting 60mph in the morning, decreasing 25mph gusting 35mph by dusk.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 60%

Low cloud and visibility: Occasional or scattered cloud, base around the summits but lowering significantly in snow showers. Visibility mostly very good, but poor or very poor in showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 3 to 6 Celsius falling to Zero Celsius in the evening.
At 800m: Zero to Minus 2 Celsius
Freezing level: 400 to 600m

Friday	Heavy snow and blizzards. Drier spells later with snow showers. Gale or severe gale Easterly backing Northwesterly winds. Freezing at most levels.
Saturday	Occasional snow or snow showers. Rain and snow later with temperatures slowly rising. Moderate or fresh north or northwest winds, strengthening from the southwest late in the day. Freezing most levels at first, heading towards the summits late in the day.
Sunday	Rain soon clearing to wintry showers. Gale to severe gale west to northwest winds developing. Freezing levels lowering to around 800m.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
© Crown Copyright 2022. All Rights Reserved.

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Tuesday 15 February 2022. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:20. Full report: There has been both fresh snow and a thaw in the past 24 hours! Very generally, the thaw has been below 750m, above 850m there is slightly more snow than on Monday and in between these 2 altitudes coverage is on average the same. There is a skittering of snow from 650m with a general coverage starting around 750m. Depth rises with height although actual depth encountered varies considerably from only a couple of centimetres on windswept areas – such as parts of the summit plateau – to drifts of over 60cm (although such depth is the exception) with a very rough average at 900m of around 11cm. The snow has been deposited on mainly W to NW winds so the greatest accumulations are to be found in sheltered spots and hollows and on predominantly E and S facing aspects. Above 800m lie some patches of old, harder snow that have undergone some freeze/thaw cycles. These are similarly on E facing aspects but also on N facing. There was evidence of some windslab (loose unstable snow) where these two layers of old and new snow had not bonded. These old patches of snow were hard and icy today. Conversely, most (but not all) of the fresher snow was soft; however, especially above 900m and where it had been compacted, some of the fresher snow was also hard. The summit plateau was covered in ice and some of the fresh snow had a, generally, non-weight baring crust. Cornices have started to develop over steep, predominantly east facing slopes. Although they are very small, please keep well clear of such edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise. At the time of writing, the whole of the Lake District is under a Met Office yellow warning for wind from 3pm on Wednesday with this being upgraded to an amber warning for wind from 4pm on Wednesday. It is, therefore, essential that any walkers intending to venture out on Wednesday aim to do so early planning to be safely off the fells well before these warnings take effect – as well as considering any onward journeys. For those doing just that, full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment - including torch, map & compass - are all essential for anyone out on the high fells. For those going above the snowline and attempting, or traversing, steep slopes or exposed routes – such as Striding and Swirral Edges – an ice axe is essential and crampons must be carried in case the current snow freezes and hardens. Similarly microspikes and walking poles are strongly recommended for anyone walking above the snowline in case there is more ice and hard

© Crown Copyright 2022. All Rights Reserved.

snow around on Wednesday. With strong winds, showers/longer spells of precipitation followed by weather warnings for the increasing strength of the wind, Wednesday is unlikely to be enjoyable out in the fells especially when compared with sitting by a log fire in a cosy pub!!! Temperature: minus 1.3 C, Maximum wind speed 35.3 mph, Wind chill: minus 11.7 C, Average wind speed: 30.7 mph

Issued at: 00:35 on Wed 16 Feb 2022

© Crown Copyright 2022. All Rights Reserved.